

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, respected columnist Charles Krauthammer of the Washington Post correctly revealed the Senate Democratic filibuster of judicial nominees as a fraud.

He thoughtfully researched that one of the great traditions, customs, and unwritten rules of the Senate is that we do not filibuster judicial nominees. Only once in 200 years has a filibuster been successful, and it reflected uniquely a lack of votes for confirmation.

Senate Majority Leader FRIST is to be commended for maintaining the constitutional case for an up-or-down vote. Democrat obstructionism is a radical deviation from allowing Senators to vote on nominees who are highly qualified. Senator FRIST is courageously protecting the American people to take an unwritten 200-year-old rule to make it written.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11.

CALLING ON ISIKOFF AND WHITAKER TO ISSUE FULL RETRACTION AND APOLOGY FOR NEWSWEEK STORY

(Mr. NEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, today I stand as co-chair of the Afghan Caucus with the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Newsweek reporter Michael Isikoff fabricated an incident at Guantanamo Bay where American soldiers allegedly desecrated a copy of the Quran. Yesterday, Newsweek editor Mark Whitaker announced that Newsweek may have "inaccurately reported" the incident; yet he refuses to run a retraction.

Isikoff inaccurately reported an incident that led to riots throughout the Muslim world. Isikoff inaccurately reported an incident that led to the death of 17 innocent people. Isikoff inaccurately reported an incident that resulted in the international condemnation of the American military.

Newsweek's behavior is not merely unfortunate. It is criminal. Journalists wield considerable power, and therefore, must exercise responsibility. Though Isikoff's actions resulted in the death of innocent people, he is evidently accountable to no one. His Newsweek editor, Mark Whitaker, even refuses to run a retraction.

Michael Isikoff and Mark Whitaker's fraud explains why the Gallup poll says that media credibility is at its lowest point in 30 years.

I call on Michael Isikoff and Mark Whitaker to take responsibility by issuing a full retraction of their fabricated story and an apology to the Nation and to the Afghans. America's troops are in enough danger without self-righteous, yellow journalists like Michael Isikoff defaming them for a cheap headline.

NEWSWEEK MUST REWRITE OR RETRACT STORY

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as a co-chair of the Afghan Caucus, let me acknowledge the fact that, although we have the first amendment, and we have a respected journalists and a respected publication, it is appropriate that we have an apology for the tragedy that has occurred in Afghanistan and in Pakistan.

Hundreds or tens of tens have lost their lives because of a report that soldiers at Guantanamo Bay flushed the Quran down the toilet, a report that has now been suggested by the person who reported it to be inaccurate.

I think in order to get ourselves back on track to create a more peaceful atmosphere in Afghanistan and to not undermine the peaceful track that the Afghani people are on with President Karsai, we must apologize, Newsweek must apologize, and it must, it must, rewrite the story or retract it if it is inaccurate or untrue.

It is important to note that everything that is said by Americans today can be characterized around the world to disturb the orderly peacefulness and the operations of new governments by countries where conflicts exist. It is appropriate that we recognize that the importance of our soldiers' safety rises above any potential thought that one cannot apologize.

So I hope that we will accept and recognize this need that the media and Newsweek will stand and apologize so that we can begin to rebuild and repair the schism that has now been created.

Telling the truth by media at all times, painful or not, is important, and an apology is owed; and I hope that this will occur very shortly.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 13, 2005.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 13 at 9:29 am:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 86.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 135.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 136.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HON. BART STUPAK, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable BART STUPAK, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 6, 2005.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony and documents issued by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

BART STUPAK,
Member of Congress.

REAPPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS TO COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 USC 6431 note), amended by section 681(b) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (22 USC 2651 note), and the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Chair announces that on May 14, 2005, the Speaker reappointed the following members on the part of the House to the Commission on International Religious Freedom:

Ms. Nina Shea, Washington, D.C., for a 2-year term ending May 14, 2007, to succeed herself;

and upon the recommendation of the minority leader:

Ms. Felice Gaer, Paramus, New Jersey, for a 2-year term ending May 14, 2007, to succeed herself.

CBO COST ESTIMATE ON H.R. 1817, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, on May 3, 2005, the Committee on Homeland Security filed its report on H.R. 1817, the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006. At that time the committee had not yet received a Congressional Budget Office cost estimate, and it filed the report without the cost estimate required in clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Subsequently, the committee received the CBO cost estimate on H.R. 1817, and I am submitting it herewith for the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the enclosed estimate be inserted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at the appropriate place.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST
ESTIMATE

*H.R. 1817—Department of Homeland Security
Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006*

Summary: H.R. 1817 would authorize the appropriation of \$34.2 billion for fiscal year 2006 to fund the major operations of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1817 would cost about \$33 billion over the 2006–2010 period, assuming appropriations of the authorized amounts. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts.

H.R. 1817 contains an intergovernmental mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) by exempting certain information related to critical infrastructure from state and local laws that provide public access to information. CBO estimates that the costs, if any, to state and local governments would be minimal and well below the annual threshold established in that act (\$62 million in 2005, adjusted annually for inflation). H.R. 1817 contains no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

Estimated cost to the Federal Government: The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 1817 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the authorized amounts will be appropriated near the beginning of fiscal year 2006 and that outlays will follow the historical spending rates for these activities. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 050 (national defense), 300 (natural resources and environment), 400 (transportation), 450 (community and regional development), 550 (health), 600 (income security), 750 (administration of justice), and 800 (general government).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Department of Homeland Security Spending Under Current Law:						
Estimated Budget Authority ¹	38,469	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	31,928	14,443	7,939	3,475	1,308	594
Proposed Changes:						
Authorization Level	0	34,152	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	17,418	7,513	5,123	2,391	683
Department of Homeland Security Spending Under H.R. 1817:						
Authorization Level ¹	38,469	34,152	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	31,928	31,861	15,452	8,598	3,699	1,277

¹ The estimated 2005 level is the amount of appropriations less offsetting collections for that year for operations of DHS.

Intergovernmental and private-sector impact: H.R. 1817 contains an intergovernmental mandate as defined in UMRA by exempting certain information related to critical infrastructure from state and local laws that provide public access to information. CBO estimates that the costs, if any, to state and local governments would be minimal and well below the annual threshold established in that act (\$62 million in 2005, adjusted annually for inflation). H.R. 1817 contains no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

Section 306 would require the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to issue regulations for the security of maritime cargo moving within the intermodal transportation system. Those regulations would relate to the securing, recording, and verifying of seals on maritime cargo containers in the hauling of cargo from one mode of transportation to another. According to DHS, a notice of proposed rulemaking that incorporates the recommendations referred to in the bill has been drafted and is pending review. Based on information from DHS, CBO anticipates that the Secretary will issue those regulations. Thus, CBO expects that the provisions in this section would impose no additional mandates on public or private-sector entities.

State and local governments would benefit from programs to improve interoperable communications and to reimburse costs for having law enforcement officers trained to enforce immigration laws. Any costs incurred by those governments would be incurred voluntarily.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Mark Grabowicz; Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Melissa Merrell; Impact on the Private Sector: Paige Piper/Bach.

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

LINDA WHITE-EPPS POST OFFICE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 627) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 40 Putnam Avenue in Hamden, Connecticut, as the "Linda White-Epps Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 627

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LINDA WHITE-EPPS POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 40 Putnam Avenue in Hamden, Connecticut, shall be known and designated as the "Linda White-Epps Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Linda White-Epps Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 627 will designate this post office in Hamden, Con-

necticut, as the Linda White-Epps Post Office. Linda White-Epps lived a life that is very fitting for this high honor. Mrs. White-Epps was a breast cancer and women's health advocate in her community ever since she personally overcame a bout with breast cancer in 1990.

□ 1415

A result of her battle with the dreaded disease, she founded a group called "Sisters' Journey," a nonprofit organization that provides support to survivors and anyone affected by this dreaded disease.

She was also a member of both the local NAACP executive board and the local Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors. In 2001, she was elected to the Hamden City Council. That same year, she was named a "Point of Light" for her work on behalf of women's health issues by the Points of Life Foundation, a national volunteer organization devoted to community service.

Mr. Speaker, sadly, though, Linda White-Epps' form of cancer relapsed more than a decade later and she passed away in 2003. Over the years I know she became very close with the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAULO), and I want to commend my distinguished colleague for her work on this bill. This Post Office will help citizens of Hamden, Connecticut to remember their dear friend, Linda, as well as her contributions and her charitable life.

Linda White-Epps' grandfather was a letter carrier, making this honor of a Post Office all the more fitting and meaningful for her family. I strongly support this resolution and I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join my colleague, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER), in consideration of H.R. 627,